

**WEST HARTFORD PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Regarding Ordinance Concerning the Renewal of Liquor Permits**  
**October 14, 2014 at 7:10 p.m.**

Meeting opened at 7:12 p.m.

President Slifka: Okay. Next sheet. Alright we call the 7:10 Public Hearing to order. This is regarding an ordinance concerning the renewal of Liquor Permits. Can I have roll call please, Ms. Labrot?

Present Councilor Barnes, Cantor, Captain, Davidoff, Hall, Kindall, and Slifka were present. Councilors Casperson and Doar were absent.

President Slifka: Mr. Alair?

Mr. Alair: Good evening, again. Earlier tonight you heard ordinance regarding an amendment to our veterans' property tax exemption. In the same session of the legislature, they were keeping us busy. They adopted a statute which allows for our police department to be notified in the event of a Liquor Permit Renewal Application. In order for the police department to get that notice, the council has to adopt an implementing ordinance, and that is the ordinance before you. It simply requires an applicant to notify the police department when they renew.

President Slifka: Thank you. Are there any questions for Alair? Mr. Captain?

Councilor Captain: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mr. Alair, what happens if somebody doesn't do this?

Mr. Alair: It is a violation of both State law because it is... once you implement the ordinance, it's part of the application process, so it's a violation of State law. It's also a violation of our ordinances. I'm double checking. Kimberly Boneham actually wrote this ordinance. The general penalty provision would apply, which is \$79, for not complying, as a ticket, plus whatever implication it had for the permit process at the State level.

Councilor Captain: So, could it halt the permitting or the re-permitting process?

Mr. Alair: It would certainly show it down. I'm not sure if it halts it because, as you indicated, if somebody doesn't do it, it may not get caught. In the pipeline, we may find out about it after the permit had been issued, and, at that point, we'd be issuing tickets, and it would be up to the State to take its action.

Councilor Captain: Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Captain. Ms. Hall?

Councilor Hall: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mr. Alair, can you also explain what the police do with the information when they get it?

Mr. Alair: I think I'll defer to the Town Manager on that one.

Mr. Van Winkle: It merely requires that we be noticed. Now, the town can intervene in a hearing to present evidence that something is happening that the Liquor Commission may not know about so we can become a party to that discussion. Right now if we had someone who held a liquor license that was in trouble with the police on a regular basis, they could get a renewal and we wouldn't even know that they were up for renewal until after they received it, and then we get a notice from the State.

Councilor Hall: So then, this would allow us, if there were issues, to bring those issues up to the Liquor Control right then and there.

Mr. Van Winkle: Yeah. And, then, that's exactly the intent of the legislation, to allow us enough notice so we can participate in that hearing if we feel it is necessary.

Councilor Hall: Thank you.

President Slifka: Ms. Kindall.

Councilor Kindall: It was the same question.

President Slifka: Mr. Barnes? Anyone else have a question? Okay. Sign-up sheet. Blank. Okay. Is there anybody who did not sign up wish to speak to the subject matter of this Public Hearing? I see none. Then, we will close the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing closed at 7:16 p.m.



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Essie S. Labrot  
Town/Council Clerk  
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